S&H Form: PTO 1391 (2/01)

COMBINED DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.

(Includes Reference to PCT International Applications)

1391.1033

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

CHARACTER-RECOGNITION PRE-PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD, AND PROGRAM RECORDING MEDIUM

the specification of which (check only one item below):

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in \$1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed:

| PRIOR FOREIGN/PCT APPLICATION(S) AND ANY PRIORITY CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119: | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| COUNTRY | | DATE OF FILING | PRIORITY CLAIMED | | | | | | |
| (if PCT, indicate "PCT") | APPLICATION NUMBER | (day, month, year) | UNDER 35 USC 119 | | | | | | |
| Japan | 11/338902 | 30 November 1999 | [X] YES [] NO | | | | | | |
| | | | [] YES [] NO | | | | | | |
| | | | [] YES [] NO | | | | | | |
| | | | []YES []NO | | | | | | |
| | | | []YES []NO | | | | | | |

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| - COMBINED DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION AND POWE | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|-------------------|---|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------|--|--|
| ATTORNEY (Continued) | | | | | | NO. | | | |
| | (Includes Reference to PCT International Applications) 1391.1033 I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) or PCT | | | | | | | | |
| | I hereby claim | the benefit under Title | 35, Uni | ted States Code, §120 of | any United St | ates application | (s) or PCT | | |
| international application(s) designating the United States of America that is/are listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that/those prior application(s) in the manner | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | ited States Code, §112, I | | | | | |
| | | | | ral Regulations, §1.56 wh | | | | | |
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| | | PPLICATIONS OR PC DER 35 U.S.C. 120: | TINTE | RNATIONAL APPLICA | TIONS DESIG | NATING THE | U.S. FOR | | |
| .s. APPLICATIONS | | | | STATUS (Check one) | | | | | |
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| CT | APPLICATIONS | DESIGNATING THE U | J.S. | | | | | | |
| | APPLICATION N | | | U.S. SERIAL | | | | | |
| | | | | NUMBERS | | | | | |
| | | | | ASSIGNED (if any) | | | | | |
| CT | /JP00/08452 | November 30, 2 | 000 | O9/889,089 | | X | | | |
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| | POWER OF A | ATTORNEY: I hereby | appoint | t the attorneys and agent | ts of Staas & H | alsey LLP und | ler USPTO | | |
| | Customer No. 21,171 to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark | | | | | | | | |
| | Office connect | ted therewith: | <u></u> | | | | | | |
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| | I hereby decla | | | in of my own knowledge | are true and t | hat all statemer | nts made on | | |
| | information an | d belief are believed to b | e true; | and further that these state | ments were ma | de with the kno | wledge that | | |
| | willful false sta | stements and the like so I | nade are | e punishable by fine or imp | prisonment, or | both, under sect | tion 1001 of | | |
| | Title 18 of the | United States Code, and t | that such | willful false statements m | ay jeopardize tl | ne validity of the | e application | | |
| | | ssuing thereon. | | | | | | | |
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| Wieshi hapurani Yasaharu Unami | | | | | | | | | |
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